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Not As I Am.

Not as I am, without on plea,
That I might more like Jesus be,
And follow Him who died for me;
O Lamb of God, I come!

Not as I am, O heart of mine,
While walking in the light divine,
With life becoming more like Thine;
O Lamb of God, I come!

Not as I am—not tossed about,
But rising over sin and doubt;
No foes within, no fears without;
O Lamb of God, I come!

Not as I am, but free from fear,
With peaceful vision calm and clear,
Foretastes of heaven drawing near;
O Lamb of God, I come!

—N. Y. Observer.

Pacifics.

This time I am writing at the Commercial Hotel, Rock Island, Ill., but I shall write Pacifics, nevertheless.

The Brethren church at Altamont, Cal., was so well under way that the trustees thought it best to dedicate it to the worship of God, which was done on the 12th inst. The writer, assisted by Bro. C. E. Doty, conducted the services. There was a fair attendance, a commendable interest, and a liberal collection. The house so far is clear of debt, with a little means in the treasurer's hands for necessary improvements. Our solicitors, architects and builders, and all concerned, did their work nobly; and I am safe in saying that this first Brethren church on the Pacific coast, when completed, will be a model for neatness, stability and adaptability. The work on the building and grounds, in which the neighbors in general gave a helping hand, was all a free-will offering. Bro. Shanks, our Secretary, in his report will give all that is necessary to be stated, so that I need only speak a little more of the services.

The scriptures read on the occasion referred mainly to the temple; the text was 1 Tim. 3: 14, 15; and the theme, "Behavior in the House of God." We were sorry that neither Bro. J. P. Wolfe nor any of our other ministering brethren on the coast, could be with us on the occasion.

At the close of the dedicatory services it was decided, by vote of the members present, to have a communion meeting the same evening. This was done. Nearly all of the members present communed, and we had both a pleasant and profitable service. I can scarcely withhold saying something about our attitude in relation to the communion question; but remembering that I am now only writing Pacifics, I will forbear. The spectators were very attentive, and we think that the service was profitable for them as well as for us.

On the evening of the 13th inst., I preached my finale, for the present, in the Union church at Lathrop. I think we had both a good meeting and parting. I was sorry to leave this field of labor for a while, and the regret seemed to be mutual; but so providence seemed to direct, and no one felt like demurring. I am glad to believe that the cause is looking upward in California, and I hope to hear good reports from there during my absence.

On the 14th I attended to some business, paid a few visits, and at 8 o'clock p. m., took the train for Rock Island, via Mojave (Mo-hah-ve) and Albuquerque (Al-bu-ber-ke.) I took this middle route for two reasons: first, because I wished to evade the heavy snows of the more northern routes; and, second, because I wanted a glimpse of Southern Cal., Arizona and New Mexico. I landed here this morning about 8 o'clock, to find more snow and colder weather than I had seen for over two years and a half. I endured the trip very well and enjoyed it as well as could be expected.

There are many interesting places along this route of which I would like to speak, but want of time and space forbid it at present. To relieve myself I may be obliged to follow the example of Bro. Brown. I am glad that, while his brief labors in Cal. are doing good on the coast, his visit to Cal. is doing good in other directions.

At Nickerson, Kan., on Saturday, the 18th, at 6: 45 a. m., I stopped off, intending to spend a day with my brother Jacob and his family. I was fortunate in meeting him on the platform, and as he was going to Hutchinson on his way to his appointments at Christopher, I reboarded the train and enjoyed its company for about half an hour. He reports a fair condition of the work and good prospects in his field of labor, which is quite extensive. I am glad that he is courageous in the cause, and hope he will be successful in all his efforts to do good.

But you want to know what I am doing here. Well, I am on my way to Lanark, Ill., to help in the vineyard of the Lord. Brethren and sisters, pray for me and for the work at Lanark: also pray for my absent family and the work on the Pacific. More anon.

J. W. BEER.

Rock Island, Ill., Dec. 19, '86.

N. B. I omitted in the proper place to thank brethren, sisters, and friends for kind words and deeds to me before I started for the East; but they are not forgotten.

J. W. B.

Jones Mills, Pa.

Sunday, November 28th, was the time of our regular appointment. Had quite a fair congregation of attentive hearers. Sunday, December 5th, I had no appointment of our own, so on Friday the 10th, I started for Bridgeport, a distance of twelve miles. Meeting was appointed for Saturday and Sunday evenings in a school house.

On Sunday at 3 p. m. I had the privilege of hearing brother Coleman, minister in charge of the Evangelical church, preach, and through his kindness their meeting house was offered to us for our evening service at 7 p. m. Had a very respectable audience to listen to the word preached. Here I found nine brethren and sisters. All were present save one and she was ill. Think the time will soon be here when we will organize at this place.

On Wednesday I started for Uniontown, Fayette county, Pa., for the purpose of meeting with the brethren of the Grove church. Also to hear brother Wilt preach a few sermons. Changed my mind however before purchasing my ticket, and took opposite direction and soon landed at a little town called Heck in our own county. Here I found two members, one in town, the other half a mile from town. Had meeting over Sunday; congregation large. Sunday night the house was entirely full of seemingly anxious hearers of the truth. First I gave a short history of the church, after which I confined myself to my text for half an hour. Closed our meeting, after which I was very warmly greeted by many that were present, also very pressing invited back again to preach for them which I intend to do if all goes well. Thanks to all for favors bestowed.

STEPHEN HILDEBRAND.

North Liberty, Ohio.

Seeing nothing from North Liberty for quite awhile I thought I would write and tell the readers what we are doing at this place.

We met in council today, Dec. 23rd, Bro. A. A. Coker being with us. We had a very pleasant and profitable meeting. The brethren and sisters were three at North Liberty, and three at Ankenytown; namely, John Wineland, Daniel J. Grubb, and Melvin Miller at North Liberty, and Christian Swank, Daniel Beal and Christian Moree, at Ankenytown. We believe they are the right men in the right place. Two were added to our number from the German Baptists. We gladly welcome brother and sister Myers in our midst; hope they may feel at home among us and may God's blessings rest upon them.

We expect to hold a series of meetings in the near future; hope we may report a grand and glorious ingathering of souls. We believe that some of the good seed that has been sown in the past is ripening and ready to be garnered in the fold of the Lord.

Dear brethren and sisters, let us not sit idle and wait for our ministers to do all the work, but let us take hold and do all we can to convert souls to Christ.

If we could each win but one soul to Christ what a grand and glorious meeting we would have. If one soul is worth more than this whole world, why should we not take a greater interest in pointing sinners to God.

We should all be evangelists: If we can not sing like angels,
If we cannot preach like Paul,
We can tell the love of Jesus,
We can sing he died for all.

ALICE GRUBB.

Myrtle Point, Oregon.

We, the brethren met in council the 4th of this month. All that was presented to the meeting was disposed of in harmony. We agreed to build a church house in the town of Myrtle Point. The house they propose to build will be 26x30—14 feet

walls with arched ceiling. The G. B's are trying with all their power to make the people believe that we brethren are rebels and there are but few in number altogether. But they meet with poor encouragement. I understand that they have forbidden their members to go to the brethren's meetings. We have meeting every Lord's day. Next Lord's day we will try to organize a Sunday school, if the Lord will. We have agreed to have meeting in Coquille City the first week in next month. Pray for us in our weakness; our prayer is that we may do some good for the Master's cause.

W. PULLEN.

Dec. 16th, 1886.

Eaton, Ind.

Dec. 20.—Thinking that some would like to hear from this part of the vineyard, we will try, for the first to send in our little mite. Bro. Teeter, accompanied by Bro. Holsinger, came to our assistance from the Oakville church and found us awaiting him that he might assist us in our business meeting. It did not take Bro. Teeter long in attending to our wants.

The brethren and sisters desired a minister, and by an election, it was seen that that solemn and responsible calling fell upon the writer. Though young in years, I felt that God had called, and obey I must. We sincerely entreat for the prayers of the brethren that we may be sustained in our high calling.

Brethren if you have any documents that would assist me in the preparation that must necessarily be made, I would be very glad to get them, when you have finished them.

Bro. Henry Younts, who is full of zeal and energy was called to fill the deacon's office. May the grace of God sustain him in his new calling. Bro. Teeter preached for us Saturday night, Sunday and Sunday night and though the weather was severe, the congregations were large, which shows the deep interest manifested.

We have prayer meetings every Saturday night and the good which results therefrom is incalculable. There is a vast field here for a revival effort, if some good brother would call and preach for us.

Steps are being taken toward the erection of a church house, and we trust before long that we may accommodate the people who seem so interested.

Remember this little band at Eaton, when it goes well with you.

GEO. W. RENCH.

Pioneer, Ohio.

I am sorry that Bro. Swihart found Christianity so low, but by all accounts he left the prize to seize it again. Our communion is a feast of the past. We had a good time, no large crowd, but it is not the largest crowds that have the best meetings. Our protracted effort is over, with good success we trust, but expect to open meeting south and

west. Pray God to help us. I have been talking to our brethren about the paper. We will try to raise a dozen or so of subscribers. We will give our report later. It is cold and rough, but we do not feel discouraged in the least. Pray to God to help us that we may be able to fight for God and the right.

J. H. PALMER.

Falls City Items.

The Brethren Church at this place can have no Christmas services, because it is not our turn in the house owned jointly by the Brethren and German Baptists. New Year's will be our day. Preaching in the morning and evening, interspersed with a business meeting, after the morning service, to consider the state of the church, and arrange for more preaching appointments.

Yesterday the mortal remains of sister—George was laid away in the silent grave. Brother Stump, who was a faithful minister during her last hours, bore testimony to her faithfulness as a Christian, and her patient, saint-like suffering during her sickness, and dying hours. She was of French origin, and was educated in that language. Her age was 54 years, and she leaves

Death has also visited the German Baptist fold. The wife of Elder Berkeybile, their pastor, died suddenly on Thursday morning. She had been an invalid for years, yet her death was unexpected at the time. She will be buried tomorrow. Elder Flora from Brown Co., Kansas, has been called to preach the funeral. She leaves two small children. God pity the motherless.

Through the mercies of a kind providence, who has blessed us with health and given us kind friends who have remembered us in a substantial manner, the writer and his family have been enabled to enjoy a Merry Christmas. It was our first Christmas since "mother's" death, and our minds naturally reverted back to former Christmases, when she was present to share the joys of the festive occasion. The possibility of her, though dead, yet being a silent witness to our joys, was thought of and discussed. Although God's word does not afford us positive assurance on this subject, it affords us evidence that lifts the hope from the possible, to the probable, and places our beloved ones "gone before" among the "cloud of witnesses" to "the race set before us" (Heb. 12: 1) who share with us our joys and sympathize with us in our sorrows.

God be praised for his unspeakable gifts.

E. L. YODER.

Falls City, Neb., Christmas.

A holy life spent in the service of God and in communion with Him, is without doubt, the most pleasant and comfortable life that any man can live in this world.—Melancthon.